

state of Kansas. Gracia and Martin Burnham, and their fellow hostage, Filipino nurse Ediborah Yap, had endured more than a year in captivity at the brutal hands of the terrorist group *Abu Sayyaf* that has had links to the *al-Qaida* organization.

We all know the news reports, some of them almost by heart, of the attempted rescue by the Filipino military, who, based on the details that I have, demonstrated heroism and bravery in the encounter. And the heart-rending deaths of Martin and Ediborah and the wounding of Gracia. But today I want to remind all of us that while this may have been the end of their ordeal, it is not the end of their struggle, nor of ours.

The poet John Donne once wrote, "No man is an island, entire of it self; any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in Mankind; and therefore never send to know for whom the bells tolls; it tolls for thee."

September 11 was a wakeup call, but the bell still tolls. We must not let it go unanswered.

Some people have proclaimed that terrorism is simply a symptom of poverty and despair. That it is, if you can believe this, the logical response to a life of misery. I have one question then: Why kill those who are there to alleviate poverty, to lift despair, and to eliminate misery?

Terrorism is not a symptom of poverty, despair and misery. It is a cause. It is the root cause. These men and women do not just attack the concept of freedom and freedom-loving people everywhere, they terrorize their own people, they ravage their own country.

That is not logic, that is not strategy; that is evil. Yet, in the face of evil, people such as the Burnhams do not flinch. They have never flinched. When the governments have left, the missionaries are there. When the NGOs have left, the missionaries are there. When the charitable organizations have left, the missionaries are there.

There are some goals too great, some missions really just too precious, and so the missionaries are there. They keep going. They are always there. And they accept the sacrifices of their work in order to stay true to their calling. Even Gracia Burnham, on the day she arrived home to her children and her friends and family, seeing them for the first time in over 375 days, forcefully said, "A very bad thing happened to Martin and I when we were taken hostage, but we want everyone to know that God was good to us every single day of our captivity."

It is a statement emblematic of the strength, courage and, most of all, faith of both of them, and of all missionaries worldwide, who every day risk their lives to help others. In fact, the Burnham's story started out much like many others.

Martin first arrived in the Philippines in 1969 with his missionary parents. He returned to the United States after high school, met Gracia, grad-

uated from Calvary Bible College and the Wichita Aviation Education Center, and then completed the New Tribes Mission training program, the New Tribes group out of Florida. Not surprisingly, he and Gracia then returned to the Philippines, remaining there ever since. In fact, their three children, Jeff, Mindy, and Zach, were all born in the Philippines.

And then, on May 27, 2001, while celebrating their 18th wedding anniversary, they were kidnapped.

It was not the marker of celebration they wanted—that of their love for each other and for God—but rather that of the beginning of this incredible, horrible journey.

The blame for the year of suffering that Martin, Gracia, and Ediborah Yap endured rests squarely upon the shoulders of the terrorist Abu Sayyaf Group. They were offered peaceful means to resolve this situation, multiple peaceful options. Yet this group insisted upon terror, murder, and rampage. They attacked Americans, and they attacked their own people. And they never hesitated to kill without compunction, without compassion, and without logic. Executing several prisoners, including another American that was taken hostage at the time as the Burnhams. Guillermo Sabero, a Californian, was beheaded by this same Abu Sayyaf Group.

Terrorists must understand every single U.S. citizen is important, that an attack on an American anywhere in the world is an attack on America itself.

Most of all, though, terrorists must understand—must be made to understand—that terrorism is never justifiable. Wanton violence that harms blameless men, women and children, unpredictable violence that strikes fear into innocent hearts and minds is not, and never will be justifiable.

As Philippines President Gloria Arroyo said, "The fight against terrorism is our fight. It is the fight of all of mankind against evil."

The bell tolls for all of us. Duty beckons all of us.

And the call is simple. We must continue to support the effort to eradicate the Abu Sayyaf Group and other terrorist organizations that threaten the security of the Philippines and other peaceful nations.

Already, U.S. assistance to the Philippines has produced results. Civil action and humanitarian projects are improving living conditions, and specialized training has resulted in a more capable military. Even Gracia Burnham noted, "We especially want to thank the military men, the Filipinos and the Americans, who risk, and even gave their lives, in order to rescue us."

As seen by this rescue, the Abu Sayyaf Group is on the run, but it needs to be completely eliminated as a threat. I personally will continue to encourage any U.S. support requested by the Philippine Government to assist them in their fight against ter-

rorism and its causes, and to urge my colleagues to do so as well. After all, the struggle is not over, only this ordeal.

Just this morning, elements of the AFP, the Filipino military, were involved in a fierce battle with a group that calls itself the Pentagon. It is a splinter group from the Moro Islamic Liberation Front. This group has held a south Korean businessman captive since February 6, 2001. While defending their country from the scourge of terrorism, two Filipino soldiers were killed, and nine members of this extremist organization died. That was in this most recent firefight. More deaths, and for what?

Let me be clear. The deplorable actions of the Abu Sayyaf Group caused the deaths of Martin, Ediborah, and Guillermo. Let there be no equivocation on this point, the Abu Sayyaf Group is criminally culpable and must be brought to justice.

As we all know, terror begets terror, but justice produces justice. And a nation founded upon the rule of law has a special responsibility to share and enforce that vision.

This Friday, the Burnham family will be holding a memorial service for Martin, not to mourn, but to celebrate his life. Today, I ask all of us to do so, to celebrate Martin, to remember his family, and to recall our shared duty to "provide for the common Defense" and to "define and punish . . . Offenses against the Law of Nations."

These may seem to be the worst of times, but, like the Burnhams, we are a strong, resilient, and, most of all, hopeful people, and we will prevail.

As it says in the Beatitudes:

Blessed are the merciful, For they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, For they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemaker, For they shall be called sons of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,

For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

God bless you, Martin Burnham.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate now proceed to a period of morning business with Senators allowed to speak therein for a period not to exceed 5 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I am delighted that the House of Representatives yesterday passed unanimously

the Mychal Judge Police and Fire Chaplains Public Safety Officers' Benefit Act of 2002, S. 2431.

Last month, the Senate passed unanimously my legislation to provide death benefits to the families of 10 fallen heroes of September 11. I again thank Senators CAMPBELL, SCHUMER, CLINTON, BIDEN and FEINGOLD for cosponsoring our bipartisan measure. I commend Representatives MANZULLO and NADLER for their bipartisan leadership on the House companion bill, H.R. 3297, and I thank House Judiciary Committee Chairman SENSENBRENNER and Ranking Member CONYERS for their strong support as well.

Named for Chaplain Mychal Judge, who was killed while responding with the New York City Fire Department to the September 11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center, this legislation recognizes the invaluable service of police and fire chaplains in crisis situations by allowing for their eligibility in the Public Safety Officers' Benefit Program. Father Judge, who was gay, was survived by his two sisters who, under current law, are ineligible to receive payments through the PSOB Program. This is simply wrong and must be remedied.

Indeed, Father Judge is among 10 public safety officers who were killed on September 11, but who are ineligible for Federal death benefits because they died without a surviving spouse, child, or parent. This bill would retroactively correct this injustice by expanding the list of those who may receive public safety officer benefits to the beneficiaries named on the most recently executed life insurance policy of the deceased officer. This change would go into effect on September 11 of last year to make sure the families of Father Judge and the nine other fallen heroes receive their public safety officer benefits.

In addition, this bill would retroactively restructure the Public Safety Officers' Benefit Program to specifically include chaplains as members of the law enforcement and fire units they serve, and would make these chaplains eligible for the one-time \$250,000 benefit available to public safety officers who have been permanently disabled as a result of injuries sustained in the line of duty, or to the survivors of officers who have died.

Finally, I applaud the National Association of Police Organization, the Fraternal Order of Police, and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees for their strong support for this bill to honor public safety officers and their families.

This legislation provides much-needed relief for the survivors of the brave public servants who selflessly risk and sacrifice their own lives everyday so that others might live. I look forward to President Bush signing the Mychal Judge Police and Fire Chaplains Public Safety Officers' Benefit Act of 2002 into law.

SOLUTION TO MTBE PROBLEM

Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, by now, most everyone in the Nation has heard of the problems caused by MTBE (methyl tertiary butyl ether). I am very pleased that S. 950, the Federal Reformulated Fuels Act of 2002, reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, has largely been incorporated into the Senate energy bill, S. 517, passed by the Senate on April 25, 2002. I would like to thank all those who worked with me to negotiate this comprehensive solution to the MTBE problem.

The legislative package provides Federal funding for cleanup of existing contamination and for prevention of future releases of MTBE, while preserving the environment and protecting the country from gasoline price spikes and fuel shortages. I would like to engage in a brief colloquy with the chairman of the committee so that we can provide an overview of the problems caused by MTBE and how this legislation solves these problems.

The problem that initially motivated the committee and the Senate to act on S. 950 and this issue in general is the existing MTBE contamination of water resources. Leaking underground storage tanks (USTs) are the major source of MTBE releases. Section 832 of this legislation authorizes \$200 million from the Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) Trust Fund for States to use for MTBE remediation. For this limited allocation of funds, the legislation waives the LUST requirement that the contamination be linked to an UST. Once in the environment, MTBE separates from other gasoline components and can quickly move far away from the source. Since MTBE contamination is difficult to trace, it is nearly impossible to establish a link between the contamination and a LUST.

In addition to cleaning up existing contamination, we must prevent future leaks from USTs because MTBE, in volumes much lower than current levels found in reformulated gasoline (RFG), may remain in gasoline for up to four years of enactment of this bill. To prevent future leaks, Section 832 of this legislation authorizes an additional \$200 million from the LUST Trust Fund for States to use for activities to enforce existing UST regulations.

There is still more to learn about remediation of MTBE. Section 832 of this legislation authorizes \$2 million for conducting bedrock bioremediation research and establishing an information clearinghouse. These authorized funds are intended to go to the Bedrock Bioremediation Center (BBC) at the University of New Hampshire. Currently, the BBC conducts research on bioremediation of various contaminants in fractured bedrock. This additional funding will allow the BBC to learn ways of cleaning up MTBE contamination in fractured bedrock and establish an information clearinghouse so that the newly developed remediation tech-

niques may be shared across the nation. Once MTBE enters fractured bedrock, it is nearly impossible to remediate and equally as difficult to track. MTBE may contaminate wells that are many miles away from the original source. In simple terms, we can't get it out of bedrock and we can't tell where it will cause problems.

Mr. JEFFORDS. As the Senator from New Hampshire, the ranking member on the Environment and Public Works Committee, has pointed out, the committee acted to address existing contamination and to prevent future contamination. There are many sources of MTBE releases, including leaking underground storage tanks, motor vehicle accidents, fuel overfills, backyard mechanics and many more. With the numerous potential sources, the only way to ensure prevention of future contamination is to get MTBE out of gasoline. This legislation contains several provisions that work together to provide for quick reduction and eventual elimination of MTBE use in gasoline.

Section 834 eliminates the oxygen content requirement in Sections 211(k)(2) and 211(k)(3)(A) of the Clean Air Act. These provisions require RFG to contain two percent oxygen by weight. To satisfy this mandate, refiners must blend either fourteen percent MTBE or 5 percent ethanol into RFG. Elimination of the oxygen mandate will allow for a phase-down of the use of MTBE in RFG without requiring the use of ethanol in every gallon of RFG in certain non-attainment areas. But, RFG will still be required to meet all other statutory and regulatory requirements.

The elimination of the oxygen requirement also will allow refiners supplying RFG to the Northeast and many other States to use considerably less MTBE in RFG prior to the beginning of the phase out. MTBE is currently 3 percent of the national gasoline supply. Most of this is used in RFG areas, where MTBE volume in RFG is up to 15 percent.

The oxygen requirement is eliminated effective 270 days after enactment in order to provide time for EPA to put in place the anti-backsliding provisions included under Section 834 of this legislation.

Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. In addition to elimination of the oxygen mandate, as the Senator from Vermont has indicated, this legislation requires EPA to make a determination about the adequacy of any pending RFG petition to waive the oxygen content requirements of section 211(k)(2)(B) for RFG. If EPA fails to act in the required time, the petition shall be deemed approved. Although this includes an opt-out or other request, EPA's failure to act results in automatic approval of the petition only to the extent that the oxygen content requirement for RFG would be waived. No other RFG requirements are affected. This provision only applies to petitions pending at the time of enactment of this provision.